

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Cancel claims 1-17

18. (New) A process for optimizing the adjustment of a deformation tool (12) provided for deformation of a sheet (10), comprising:
- performing a sheet (10) using the deformation tool (12) to be adjusted,
 - subsequently, for correction of the sheet geometry, introducing into the sheet (10) at least one partial area deformation (14) using a test tool (16), and
 - following attainment of the acceptable sheet geometry, using the geometry of the partial area deformation (14) for adjusting the deformation geometry of the deformation tool (12).
19. (New) A process according to Claim 18, wherein the partial area deformation (14) is introduced in at least one edge area (18) of the preformed sheet (10).
20. (New) A process according to Claim 19, wherein the edge area (18) is a sheet edge (22) projecting essentially

perpendicular to the main orientation plane (20) of the sheet (10).

21. (New) A process according to Claim 18, wherein the partial area deformation (14) is introduced manually into the preformed sheet (10) using an auxiliary deformation tool (24).
22. (New) A process according to Claim 21, wherein the deformation geometry of the auxiliary deformation tool (24) is used for adjusting the deformation geometry of the deformation tool (12).
23. (New) A process according to Claim 18, wherein the at least two partial area deformations (14) are introduced into the preformed sheet (10) simultaneously and/or timewise separate from each other.
24. (New) A process according to Claim 18, wherein multiple geometrically distinct shaped partial area deformations (14) are introduced into the preformed sheet (10).
25. (New) A process according to Claim 18, wherein the partial area deformation (14) is in the form at least one recess (26) in the open edge area.

26. (New) A process according to Claim 18, wherein the sheet geometry changed by means of the partial area deformation (14) is checked using a sheet geometry acceptability test.
27. (New) A process according to Claim 26, wherein the sheet metal geometry acceptability test occurs using a testing device, in particular a shape gauge.
28. (New) A process according to Claim 18, wherein the sheet (10) is sheet metal, in particular aluminum or an aluminum alloy.
29. (New) A test tool for carrying out a process for optimizing the adjustment of a deformation tool (12) provided for deformation of a sheet (10), said process comprising:
- performing a sheet (10) using the deformation tool (12) to be adjusted,
 - subsequently, for correction of the sheet geometry, introducing into the sheet (10) at least one partial area deformation (14) using a test tool (16), and
 - following attainment of the acceptable sheet geometry, using the geometry of the partial area deformation (14) for adjusting the deformation geometry of the deformation tool (12),

wherein the test tool (16) includes a carrier body (28) to which an adjustment element (30) for sheet metal deformation is secured slideably guided, and the test tool includes at least one deformation insert (32).

30. (New) A test tool according to Claim 29, wherein a respective, optionally exchangeable, deformation insert (32) is comprised of at least two insert parts (34) essentially complimentary in deformation geometry, wherein a first insert part (36) is secured to the adjustment element (30) and a second insert part (38) is secured to the carrier body (28).
31. (New) A test tool according to Claim 29, wherein the test tool includes a securing system (40) for a manually releasable securing of the insert part.
32. (New) A deformation tool for carrying out a process for optimizing the adjustment of a deformation tool (12) provided for deformation of a sheet (10), said process comprising:
- performing a sheet (10) using the deformation tool (12) to be adjusted,
 - subsequently, for correction of the sheet geometry, introducing into the sheet (10) at least one partial area deformation (14) using a test tool (16), and

following attainment of the acceptable sheet geometry, using the geometry of the partial area deformation (14) for adjusting the deformation geometry of the deformation tool (12),

wherein the deformation tool (12) includes a stamp (42) and a die plate (44), wherein at least the stamp (42) includes at least one receptacle seat (46) for releasably securing a deformation tool insert part (48) for bringing about an associated partial area deformation (14) in the sheet (10).

33. (New) A deformation tool according to Claim 32, wherein the stamp insert part (48), and optionally a die plate insert part, is securable in at least one edge area (52) of the deformation tool (12).
34. (New) A deformation tool according to Claim 32, wherein the die plate (44) includes at least one deformation recess (50) embedded in the die plate (44) and shaped essentially complimentary to the deformation geometry of an associated stamp insert part (48).